

PSC NEWSMissouri Public Service Commission

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PSC STAFF FILES INCIDENT REPORT AND COMPLAINT AGAINST MISSOURI GAS ENERGY IN WARRENSBURG INCIDENT

Jefferson City (February 14, 2001)---The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission has filed a complaint against Missouri Gas Energy in connection with a natural gas incident which occurred at 205 East Oak Street in Warrensburg, Missouri on July 24, 2000. The two-story, single-family residence sustained moderate damage as a result of a natural gas flash fire. One resident sustained burn injuries and was taken to the hospital for in-patient treatment. The PSC Staff report concluded that the probable cause of the incident was third party damage to Missouri Gas Energy's underground facilities by Installation Technologies, Inc.

Damage to the natural gas service line was caused by a boring bit and rod from a boring machine operated by a third party, Installation Technologies, Inc. The boring bit came in contact with the natural gas service line, causing the holes. According to the PSC Staff report, natural gas escaped from the hole in the service line and migrated into 205 East Oak Street. The natural gas then accumulated within the laundry room of the home and was ignited.

According to the complaint, the PSC Staff alleges that Missouri Gas Energy violated Commission rules by failing to mark the location of their natural gas facilities in the 200 block of East Oak Street pursuant to a request made by Installation Technologies, Inc. on July 23, 2000.